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Persecution of anti-war voices ahead of so-called elections in the Russian Federation

Written declaration No. 840

This written declaration does not reflect the position of the Assembly; only of those members that have signed it. It will not be considered further by the Assembly.

We, the undersigned, declare the following:

As the Russian Federation nears its so-called parliamentary elections on 18–20 September 2026, Yabloko – the only party in the Russian Federation that opposes the war against Ukraine and calls for its end – has come under relentless pressure from the authorities.

Two of its deputy leaders – Maxim Kruglov and Lev Shlosberg – are currently in detention and on trial, both of them facing up to 10 years in prison for social media posts criticising the war. Several party members have been imprisoned on trumped-up charges. Leading Yabloko figures – including all of its regional law-makers and its chairman, Nikolai Rybakov – have been barred from the September ballot through fines for “extremism” or “foreign agent” designations.

We express our solidarity with members of the Yabloko Party and with all Russian citizens who are speaking out against the war in Ukraine despite the ongoing repression. We reiterate that the ones who should be tried for crimes against Ukraine and crimes against Russian citizens are the illegal authorities of the Kremlin, not Russian citizens performing their civic and moral duty.

All political prisoners must be released, politically motivated prosecutions must end, and conditions must be created for the Russian people to freely express their will.

Signed (see overleaf)



*Signed*¹:

BULAI Iulian, Romania, ALDE
AKALIN Mehmet, Türkiye, ALDE
BAKER Richard, United Kingdom, SOC
BILOZIR Larysa, Ukraine, ALDE
BRADLEY Karen, United Kingdom, ECPA
BROWN Lyn, United Kingdom, SOC
CASEY Patrick, Ireland, ALDE
CHAKRABARTI Shami, United Kingdom, SOC
FRESKO-ROLFO Béatrice, Monaco, ALDE
GEDVILAS Martynas, Lithuania, SOC
GERMAN Michael, United Kingdom, ALDE
HOŁOWNIA Szymon, Poland, ALDE
JONSSON Mattias, Sweden, SOC
KEARNS Alicia, United Kingdom, ECPA
KROSS Eerik-Niiles, Estonia, ALDE
MacCLEARY James, United Kingdom, ALDE
MOSHENETS Olena, Ukraine, ALDE
PERTEGHELLA Manuela, United Kingdom, ALDE
PLAVÁKOVÁ Lucia, Slovak Republic, ALDE
PULJAK Marijana, Croatia, ALDE
READER Mike, United Kingdom, SOC
RENZI Nicola, San Marino, ALDE
TALI Kadri, Estonia, ALDE
VASYLENKO Lesia, Ukraine, ALDE

Total = 24

1. ALDE: Alliance of Liberals and Democrats for Europe
ECPA: European Conservatives, Patriots and Affiliates
SOC: Socialists, Democrats and Greens Group